
CHAPTER 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Location

The Menominee Reservation covers about 235,266 acres and is located in northeastern Wisconsin. It encompasses the entire county of Menominee, as well as small portions of Shawano and Langlade Counties. While the Reservation boundary encompasses the entire county of Menominee, not all land is governed by the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. "Fee Simple" land also exists within the Reservation and is governed by Menominee County. The majority of "fee simple" land is located in the southeast corner of the county.

Demographics

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, approximately 4,513 people reside on the Reservation, mainly in one of six areas: Keshena, Neopit, Zoar, Middle Village, South Branch and Legend Lake. Population on the Reservation declined during the last decade and is projected to continue to decline over the life of this plan. In 2010, approximately 88 percent of the population on the Reservation was Native American; the non-native American segment of the population is found mainly in the southeast corner of the Reservation.

Due to a large number of seasonal housing units (881), mostly in the southeast corner of the Reservation, only 59.9 percent of the total housing (2,338) units are occupied¹. About two-thirds (863 people) of the total workforce (1,347 people), living in Menominee County, worked in the county according to the 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 5 Year Estimates. This is a decrease from 2000, when close to 80 percent (1,091 people) of the total workforce (1,365) living in the county, worked in Menominee County. Major employers on the Reservation include the Menominee Indian Tribe, Menominee Casino-Bingo-Hotel, Menominee Indian School District, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, College of Menominee Nation and Menominee County.

Framework Plan

Utilizing responses from two visioning sessions, as well as an inventory of the demographic composition and physical characteristics of the Menominee Reservation, the Transportation/Land Use Task Force drafted goals, objectives and recommendations to guide the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin when making future land use decisions. The plan's goals and recommendations were categorized by major land use topic areas which included economic development, housing, environment, community facilities and land use. Recommendations or implementation statements spell out more specific activities and techniques which potentially could be used by the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin to implement the Tribe's vision. A future land use map (Exhibit 8-7) was developed to represent, to some degree, the ultimate vision for the Reservation's physical layout over the next twenty years. A summary of the plan's recommendations which require specific follow-up tasks is contacted in Chapter 9: Framework and Chapter 10: Implementation.

¹ 2010 U.S. Census